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Concert Couture

By CATHY YARBROUGH

The young man and woman were dressed head to toe in silver jumpsuits, boots and even the rims on their glasses. Her hair was sprayed silver.

The couple was not going to a costume party—but to the Omni for a rock concert featuring snake-swinging Alice Cooper.

Not everyone who goes to a rock concert wears outfits resembling spacesuits. Not all rock musicians sling reptiles as part of their act.

Blue jeans with halter tops for the girls and T-shirts or bare chests for the boys is still The Uniform for the younger crowd which jams the Omni, Atlanta Stadium, Fox Theater or Municipal Auditorium to hear Pink Floyd, Johnny Winter and Deep Purple.

At many concerts—and other musical events which feature violins rather than electric guitars—there are always a few people whose attire grabs some attention away from the stage.

Sometimes there is a method to the madness of the spectacular outfits.

Such as at Sha Na Na's recent performance at the Municipal Auditorium. Sha Na Na, a throwback to the 1950s in music and dress, naturally inspired many young people in the audience to wear clothing symbolic of that decade: Bobby socks, saddle oxfords, short-shorts and motorcycle jackets.

The flashier dresses included one young man who greased his hair back and donned a white shirt with sleeves rolled up to the shoulders

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Platinum Haired "Miss Twirl" Poses With Friends

Wearing "Something Special" is Robby, But Not Mary

Staff Photos—Chuck Vollertsen

Sandy Whitehalt "Felt Like Dressing Up"

Bolted Coat for Roger Stewart, With Deborah Sandlin

Skip Cromer in Confederate Jacket With Jan Eldridge

Colorful Cut-Off Jeans for Nancy Sandlin

BLUE JEAN DEVIATIONS

Eye-Catching, Dramatic Garb Make Concerts Fun

blue jean short-shorts decorated with sequins.

Another Sha Na Na fan wore a one-piece bathing suit that must have been stored for 20 years in someone's closet.

Her hair and face also reflected the '50s: French twist hairdo with faked streaked bangs and a mouth as well as a mouthful of chewing gum.

"I JUST felt like dressing up," 18-year-old Sandy Whitehalt echoed his cohorts who also deviated from the jean uniform when he explained why he wore a navy blue velvet blazer decorated with rhinestone beads to the Johnny Winter concert at the Fox.

MOST of these eye-catching dressers are just wearing variations on The Uniform.

Primarily, their outfits are basic blue jeans spiced with flashes of color, embroidery or sequins.

Also at the Johnny Winter performance was a young man named Robby whose basic jeans paled next to his dramatic face makeup and colorfully striped socks, red platform shoes, purple shirt and long yellow neck scarf.

Ironically, his date Mary was more conservatively attired. She wore blue jeans.

"It's really more interesting and fun to wear something special to rock concerts, which themselves are very theatrical. So I think people who come to them should be theatrical too," explained Robby who said it takes 20 minutes to one hour to apply his theatrical makeup.

"MISS TWIRL," as she calls herself, dressed up her blue jeaned pants and jacket at one concert with silver platform shoes and a red neck scarf.

With platinum hair cropped short, she also made up her face 1940 style: heavily rouged cheeks and lips.

At a Pink Floyd performance, Carl Sanders, 16, and Gerald Sanders, 21, distinguished their jean uniforms with black top hats. "We just felt like it," Carl said.

Attending another concert, Skip Cromer, 20, attributed his Confederate uniform coat — like the ones worn to "Old South" balls and dances — so "I really get into it."

ANOTHER basic jean turned flashy was 17-year-old Roger Stewart's jacket covered with designs of silver buttons.

Most extravagant dressers at rock concerts deny that they are aware of stares from the passers-by on the street or in the auditorium.

"People dress up like this all the time," said Tony Evans, one of several people with "Miss Twirl."

"I don't really notice if people stare or not," said 17-year-old Nancy Sanders whose cutoff jeans were combined with blue stockings and pink socks.

"It was what I felt like wearing."

JOHNNY WINTER AT THE FOX MAY 16 & 17, 1973
PINK FLOYD AT THE AUDITORIUM MARCH 24, 1973
SHA-NA-NA AT THE AUDITORIUM AUGUST 23, 1973